

VBS 2018 GRADES 3–4 BASE CONFERENCE PLAN (2 HOURS)

Purpose Statement

This two-hour plan is designed to train and equip VBS teachers to lead 3rd and 4th graders in LifeWay's *Game On!*TM VBS curriculum.

Needed Resources

- *VBS 2018 Grades 3–4 Bible Study Leader Guide*
- *VBS 2018 Grades 3–4 Bible Study Leader Pack*
- *VBS 2018 Playbook: Grades 1–6* (learner piece)
- *VBS 2018 Tablecloth*
- *VBS 2018 Megaphone* and/or *Boom Sticks*
- *VBS 2018 Pom-poms*
- *VBS 2018 Kids Gospel Guide*
- *VBS 2018 ABC Wristbands*
- *VBS 2018 Parent Guide*
- *VBS 2018 Devotional Guide for Children*
- *VBS 2018 Game On Devotion*
- *The Gospel: God's Plan for Children*
- *VBS 2018 Self-inking Stamps*
- *Bible Study Enhanced CD* (pack item 21) — Print all CD items. Place in a binder and put on the display table.
- Enhanced CD: "What's your Position?" — Copy 1 per conferee.
- Pack items 1–2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 14, 16, and 19 — Prepare as directed on each item.
- Leader guide — Photocopy the instructions for the following 4 Additional Activity Options from the leader guide. Gather the supplies needed to complete each activity and place alongside the instructions in different areas around the room.
 - Agility Drill (Day 1) — 6 hula hoops, whistle
 - Chapter-Verse Coaching (Day 1) — Bible, whistle, pack item 4
 - Flag on the Play (Day 3) — "Flag on the Play statements" (Enhanced CD), facial tissues, tape for "goal lines"
 - Hockey in a Box (Day 4) — Day 4 Bonus Verse (Enhanced CD), copy paper box, flex straws, large buttons
- Item 1: "Handout" — Print and photocopy 1 per conferee.
- Item 2: "Attachment Cards" — Print and cut apart. Place one assignment in each of 5 gym bags (or theme-related gift bags). Read over the "Live It" section (in leader guide) for each day and place the items needed for that day's teaching procedure in the corresponding bag.
- Pairs of socks (1 pair for every 2 conferees) — Place socks in a pop-up laundry bag.
- Megaphone
- Basketball(s) — 1 basketball for every group (number of groups will be determined by the total number of attendees)
- Spirit stick — Prepare as directed in Day 5, "Live It" (leader guide).
- CD Player

Room Setup

Arrange chairs in a semi-circle facing the focal wall. Decorate the room using the ideas found on page 6 of the *VBS 2018 Grades 3–4 Bible Study Leader Guide*. Hang the "Game On! Banner" (pack item 1) on the focal wall. "Game On! Banner Add-ons" (pack item 2) will be added to the banner as the conference progresses. Cover a table with a *VBS 2018 Tablecloth* and display the leader guide, leader

pack, Playbook: Grades 1–6 (learner guide) and prepared notebook containing the *Bible Study Enhanced CD* items. Place handouts and teaching items on the table and place the prepared gym bags on the floor by the focal wall.

Teaching Steps

1. Welcome (10 minutes)

- Play “Game On!” (Enhanced CD, track 1) as conferees enter and welcome them to the Field House.
- Invite conferees to play the “Start It” activity found on page 10 of the leader guide, allowing participants to shout out their preferences for the sports you name.
- Encourage conferees to stand, find a partner, and link arms. Dump a large bag of “stinky socks” on the floor. Encourage pairs to find and fold a matching pair of socks using only their unlinked arms. Remind them that they must not “unlink” arms. (Option: Give a small prize to the team who completes the activity first.)
- Welcome all conferees to the Field House. Share that this is the location where 3rd and 4th grade Bible study will occur each day of VBS. Show the decorations included in the room.

2. Equipment Room (15 minutes)

- Comment: “Every athlete has to have equipment to participate in their sport. VBS has a variety of materials that are necessary for the VBS teacher.” Show the materials displayed on the table.
- Walk conferees through the layout of the leader guide, pointing out its teacher helps, daily teaching plans, and supply list.
- Show the leader pack and overview the variety of resources that are contained inside.
- Discuss the Enhanced CD found in the leader pack and show the materials you have already printed. Encourage teachers to print out all items before VBS begins and make any needed copies for their children.
- Explain that Playbooks (the VBS 2018 learner piece) are used daily in the Field House (Bible Study). Walk through the features found in the Playbook.

3. Game Plan 2018 (45 mins.)

- Teach the motto by creating three groups. Give each group part of the motto (Gear Up! Get Ready! Game On!) and lead the groups to cheer the motto as they would at a sporting event. Use a megaphone and create an atmosphere of fun.
- Encourage conferees to complete the handout (Item 1) as you guide them through the motto, Bible verse, and Bible content for VBS 2018.
- Guide conferees to learn the VBS Scripture, 2 Peter 1:3.
 - Invite six volunteers to the front of the room. Ask each one to hold the part of the verse (from pack item 5) for the group to see. Say the verse together as a group.
 - Create one big circle (or several smaller circles, depending to the size of the group) and let conferees “bounce pass” a basketball from person to person as they say the individual phrases of the verse.
 - High-five the conferees as they return to their seats. Congratulate the group on doing a good job learning the theme verse for the week.
- Remind conferees that this verse will be emphasized daily during Bible study. Additional verses (called Bonus Verses) and a supporting learning activity are included as an “Additional Activity Option” in the leader guide each day.
- Direct conferees to the Bible Study Schedule Options on page 4 of the leader guide. Review these options, but remind teachers to ask their VBS director for guidance in determining their schedule and responsibilities for each session.

- Explain that each day the session is divided into four parts. (NOTE: Activities from each of these sections are present in this conference plan to help conferees become familiar with the activities and the purpose of each section.
 - Start It: opening activity (Sport Preference activity from “Start It,” Day 1)
 - Learn It: Bible study (2 Peter 1:3 activity from “Learn It,” Day 1)
 - Live It: Application (What’s your Position? and Motions for the Gospel activities from “Live It,” Day 3)
 - Finish It: Re-emphasis of the point for the day (Stamp symbols on kids’ hands at the end of each session in “Finish It.” Each symbol is a reminder of the day’s point: #1, megaphone, binoculars, heart, and JOY).
- Create five groups and give each a prepared gym bag with an assignment card.
 - Lead teams to read their assignment cards and use the items inside the bag to complete each assignment. Allow 10 minutes for teams to complete their assignment.
 - Ask each group to choose a team captain to present to the large group.
- Share the Day 1 Bible story using the corresponding teaching picture (pack item 3). Be sure to include the “Today’s Point” and the Bible passage as you share. Ask the first group (Day 1) to share how the Bible story is applied in the “Live It” section of the Day 1 session.
- Continue through all five Bible stories and “Live It” sections helping conferees to see Jesus as the hero of each of the 5 Bible stories and how each Bible story illustrates the main point (life application) of the day: 1) Jesus cares about me; 2) Jesus gives me hope; 3) Jesus helps me believe; 4) Jesus loves me; and 5) Jesus give me joy.
- Encourage the conferees to complete their handouts as each day’s material is presented.

5. Circuit Training (20 mins.)

- Explain that at the end of each session, four 10-minute activities are provided. These are intended to provide additional application, Bible skills, and to emphasize the bonus Bible verse provided for each session.
- Show the additional activities set up around the room.
 - Application (Agility Drill, Day 1)
 - Application (Flag on the Play, Day 3)
 - Bible Skill (Chapter-Verse Coaching, Day 1)
 - Bonus Verse (Hockey in a Box, Day 4)
- Explain that in circuit training, an athlete must complete each of the exercises one after the other to complete one circuit. Today they must try to complete all four activities in the time allotted in order to complete a circuit.
 - Allow time for conferees to complete the activities. Then ask conferees how they could use these activities in their rooms during VBS. *(Some answers might include a second Bible study session after rotations, as early-arrival activities, as late-stayer activities, or as optional activities for “Live It.”)*
 - Invite volunteers to share what they learned from an activity.

6. Score! Becoming a Christian (10 mins.)

- Mention that helping kids know what it means to be a follower of Christ is getting a “W” (win) in the VBS column. Every day we *can* share the gospel with kids, but on Day 3 more attention is given to what it means to believe.
- Give each conferee a copy of the “What’s your Position?” response card (Enhanced CD item). Demonstrate how it is used on Day 3 with the children during the “Live It” section of the leader guide.
- Show additional LifeWay resources that could be used in helping a child understand what it means to become a Christian. Point out the inside front cover of each leader guide.

- Show the “Gospel Presentation Poster” (pack item 9). Lead conferees to do the motions for each step of sharing the gospel with kids. Let them practice with a friend for several minutes. End with the group doing the motions together.

7. High Five (5 minutes)

- Lead the group to repeat the VBS Scripture verse before they leave.
- Create five groups and let them engage in some friendly competition. Present the winning group with a spirit stick (made according to the instructions on “Live It,” Day 5).
- Pray for the conferees, then dismiss.

VBS 2018 GRADES 3-4 BIBLE STUDY

MOTTO: _____ ! _____ ! _____ !

BIBLE VERSE: _____

2 PETER 1:3

	TODAY'S POINT	BIBLE STORY	BIBLE PASSAGE	FINISH IT!
DAY 1				
DAY 2				
DAY 3				
DAY 4				
DAY 5				

LIVE IT!

DAY 1

DAY 2

DAY 3

DAY 4

DAY 5

Group 1

- Read the Day 1 Bible story and teaching procedures found in “Live It” on page 12 of the *VBS 2018 Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Guide*.
 - Look at the items in your gym bag.
 - Answer the following questions and be prepared to share your findings with the large group:
 - How are the items found in your gym bag used during the session?
 - What symbol will the kids receive as they leave the Field House that will help them remember the point for the day? (“Finish It” section)
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Group 2

- Read the Day 2 Bible story and teaching procedures found in “Live It” on page 19 of the *VBS 2018 Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Guide*.
 - Look at the items in your gym bag.
 - Answer the following questions and be prepared to share your findings with the large group:
 - How are the items found in your gym bag used during the session?
 - What symbol will the kids receive as they leave the Field House that will help them remember the point for the day? (“Finish It” section)
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Group 3

- Read the Day 3 Bible story and teaching procedures found in “Live It” on pages 25-26 of the *VBS 2018 Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Guide*.
 - Look at the items in your gym bag.
 - Answer the following questions and be prepared to share your findings with the large group:
 - How are the items found in your gym bag used during the session?
 - What symbol will the kids receive as they leave the Field House that will help them remember the point for the day? (“Finish It” section)
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Group 4

- Read the Day 4 Bible story and teaching procedures found in “Live It” on page 32 of the *VBS 2018 Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Guide*.
 - Look at the items in your gym bag.
 - Answer the following questions and be prepared to share your findings with the large group:
 - How are the items found in your gym bag used during the session?
 - What symbol will the kids receive as they leave the Field House that will help them remember the point for the day? (“Finish It” section)
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Group 5

- Read the Day 5 Bible story and teaching procedures found in “Live It” on page 40 of the *VBS 2018 Grades 3-4 Bible Study Leader Guide*.
- Look at the items in your gym bag.
- Answer the following questions and be prepared to share your findings with the large group:
 - How are the items found in your gym bag used during the session?
 - What symbol will the kids receive as they leave the Field House that will help them remember the point for the day? (“Finish It” section)